

All claims pending, including those unchanged by the present amendment, are reproduced below for the convenience of the Examiner. Please add new claims 55-60.

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1                   1. (Previously Amended) A method for separating an intact NP probe from a  
2 phosphate detectable moiety, said method comprising:

3                   a) providing a sample comprising an intact NP probe with a detectable moiety  
4 attached thereto, whereupon an enzymatic cleavage of said intact NP probe to incorporate said  
5 NP probe on a primer strand hybridized to a target nucleic acid, a phosphate detectable moiety is  
6 produced, wherein said phosphate detectable moiety carries a molecular charge which is  
7 different than the molecular charge of said intact NP probe; and

8                   b) applying an energy field to said sample, thereby separating said phosphate  
9 detectable moiety from said intact NP probe.

C1 1                   2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said intact NP probe is a  
2 charge-switch nucleotide phosphate probe having a detectable moiety on a terminal phosphate.

1                   3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein said charge-switch  
2 nucleotide phosphate is a nucleotide triphosphate (NTP) having a  $\gamma$ -phosphate with a detectable  
3 moiety attached thereto.

1                   4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein said  $\gamma$ -phosphate with a  
2 detectable moiety attached thereto is a  $\gamma$ -phosphate with a fluorophore attached thereto.

1                   5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said intact NP probe is  
2 incorporated on a primer strand hybridized to a target nucleic acid using a polymerase, thereby  
3 releasing said phosphate detectable moiety.

1                   6. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein said  
2 polymerase is immobilized.

1                   7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said energy field is an  
2 electric field.

1                   8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein said electric field is a  
2 first electric field applied in a transverse direction and a second energy field is applied in an axial  
3 direction.

1                   9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said second energy field  
2 applied in said axial direction is a pressure field.

1                   10. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the charge of said  
2 phosphate detectable moiety is greater than said intact NP probe.

1                   11. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the charge of said  
2 phosphate detectable moiety is less than said intact NP probe.

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2                   12. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the charge of said  
2 phosphate detectable moiety is opposite in sign compared to said intact NP probe.

1                   13. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising c) detecting  
2 said phosphate detectable moiety.

1                   14. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein said detection is via a  
2 charge coupled device (CCD) camera.

1                   15. Previously Canceled.

1                   16. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein said detection is via a  
2 photodiode.

1                   17. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein said detection is via a  
2 blockade current.

1                   18. (Previously Amended) A method for identifying an intact charge-switch  
2 nucleotide phosphate (NP) probe, said method comprising:

3                   a) contacting a sample comprising said intact charge-switch NP probe having a  
4 charged moiety on the base, with an enzyme to produce a phosphate detectable moiety; and

5                   b) applying an electric field to said sample, wherein said phosphate detectable  
6 moiety migrates to an electrode differently than said intact charge-switch NP probe.

1                   **19.** (Original) The method according to claim **18**, wherein said electrode is an  
2 anode.

1                   **20.** (Original) The method according to claim **18**, wherein said electrode is a  
2 cathode.

1                   **21.** (Original) The method according to claim **18**, wherein either said intact NP  
2 probe has a positive molecular charge, or wherein upon cleavage of said phosphate detectable  
3 moiety, said phosphate detectable moiety carries a positive charge relative to said intact NP  
probe.

1                   **22.** (Original) The method according to claim **18**, wherein said enzyme is  
2 selected from the group consisting of a DNA polymerase, a DNA dependent RNA polymerase, a  
3 reverse transcriptase, a phosphodiesterase and a phosphatase.

1                   **23.** (Original) The method according to claim **18**, wherein said intact charge-  
2 switch NP probe is a member selected from the group consisting of a nucleotide diphosphate, a  
3 deoxynucleotide triphosphate (dNTP), and a nucleotide triphosphate (NTP).

1                   **24.** (Original) The method according to claim **23**, wherein said deoxynucleotide  
2 triphosphate (dNTP) is a member selected from the group consisting of deoxyadenosine  
3 triphosphate, deoxycytosine triphosphate, deoxyguanosine triphosphate deoxythymidine  
4 triphosphate and deoxyuridine triphosphate.

1                   **25.** (Original) The method according to claim **18**, wherein said phosphate  
2 detectable moiety is a pyrophosphate with a fluorophore moiety attached thereto.

1                   **26.** (Original) The method according to claim **25**, wherein upon cleavage of said  
2 pyrophosphate fluorophore moiety, said pyrophosphate fluorophore moiety carries a positive  
3 charge relative to said intact NTP probe.

1                   27. (Original) The method according to claim 18, wherein said intact NP probe  
2 has a positive charge.

1                   28. (Original) The method according to claim 18, wherein said intact NP probe  
2 has a negative charge.

1                   55. (New) A method for sequencing a nucleic acid, said method comprising:  
2                   providing a target nucleic acid, a polymerase priming moiety, a polymerase, and a  
3 plurality of intact NP probes;  
4                   mixing said target nucleic acid, said polymerase priming moiety, said polymerase  
5 and said plurality of NP probes under conditions permitting target dependent polymerization of  
6 said plurality of NP probes, such conditions which are capable of providing a time sequence of a  
7 plurality of phosphate detectable moieties; and  
8                   detecting over time said plurality of phosphate detectable moieties to provide a  
9 sequence of said target nucleic acid.

1                   56. (New) The method according to claim 55, wherein said primer moiety is a  
2 hairpin loop.

1                   57. (New) The method according to claim 55, wherein said plurality of  
2 phosphate detectable moieties independently selected from the group consisting of PPI-Dye, a  
3 terminal phosphate fluorophore moiety, a detectable moiety, charged groups, electrically active  
4 groups, reporter groups, and combinations thereof.

1                   58. (New) The method according to claim 55, wherein said phosphate  
2 fluorophore moiety is a used for a member selected from the group consisting of one-color  
3 sequencing, two-color sequencing, three-color sequencing, four-color sequencing and  
4 combinations thereof.

1                   59. (New) The method according to claim 55, wherein said polymerase is  
2 immobilized in single molecule configuration.

CI 1 60. (New) The method according to claim 55, wherein said plurality of

CD4 phosphate detectable moieties are separated from said plurality of intact NP probes.

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